

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A wad is provided particularly for steel small shot for cartridges of smooth-bore shotguns or shooting rifles. Each cartridge has a case having an end percussion cap and containing a firing charge and, above that, the wad for accommodating the small shot. The wad has a base turned  
5 towards the firing charge and a cylindrical lateral wall which extends from the base towards the direction of firing, in which said cylindrical lateral wall of the wad and the case define an annular space between them intended to prevent the expansion of small shot over the entire cross section of the barrel.